

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached Replacement Sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, reference numerals 24, 34 and 44 have been added. Also attached herewith is a New Sheet of drawings including new Fig. 6. Support flaps 12 and 22 are shown.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet

New Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Paragraph [0006] of the specification was objected to because of an informality.

Claims 15 to 17 and 20 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398. Claims 18, 19, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Couch et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,290,998. Claims 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Krause, U.S. Patent No. 5,142,802. Claims 23, 24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Schuelein et al., DE 195 26 637.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

Paragraphs [0006] and [0017] of the specification have been amended. A Replacement Sheet containing amendments to Fig. 2 is attached. A New Sheet containing new Fig. 6 is also attached.

Claim 16 has been canceled. Claim 24 has been amended and claim 29 has been added. Support for claim 29 can be found in the specification at paragraphs [0005] and [0017], for example.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Drawing Objections

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Fig. 2 has been amended to show the socket 24, switch 34 and pilot light 44. Fig. 6 has been added and shows third support flap 22 pointing upward and forming an extension of one of the two support flaps 12. Support for Fig. 6 can be found in the specification at paragraph [0009], for example.

35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejections

Claims 15 to 17 and 20 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398.

Carlsen discloses an ironing board of the collapsible type. At one end the ironing unit 1 comprises a portion 3 covered with an ironing felt and carrying a suitable plate 4 or the like serving as a support for a hot flat iron, when in use. For receiving the flat iron 5 when the unit formed by the ironing board and the flat iron is to be stowed away, a drawer 10 is provided under the ironing board 1 at the end of portion 3. The drawer 10 is slid able under the board 1 in suitable guides 11 and is provided with a handle 12 and a suitable closure 13 for locking the drawer in a position under the board. (See col. 2, lines 1 to 21).

Claim 15 of the present application provides an ironing board comprising:
an ironing board body having a blunt end; and
an iron rest at the blunt end of the ironing board body, the iron rest being mounted on the ironing board body as a drawer and being pushable under the ironing board body after use.

Carslen does not disclose an "iron rest mounted on the ironing board body as a drawer and being pushable under the ironing board body after use" as claimed in the present application. Carslen discloses a plate for hosting a hot iron during use (a rest surface) and a drawer for storing the iron when the iron is not in use. The drawer in Carslen is slid able under the plate and the iron rest plate is *stationary* at one end of the ironing board.

With further respect to claim 17, claim 17 provides "the iron rest includes a connector for a power cord." Carlsen does not show or teach a connector for a power cord. In Carslen, the ironing board does not include a connector or a power cord.

With further respect to claim 20, claim 20 provides "the connector includes or functions as a handle for the iron rest." Carlsen discloses a handle 12 for drawer 10, but Carlsen does not show or teach a connector that "includes or functions as a handle for the iron rest."

With further respect to claim 21, claim 21 provides "the iron rest includes a recess for passage of an iron power cord." Carlsen discloses a flexible upright 7 mounted on the ironing board 1. The flexible upright is not a recess. Carlsen does not show or teach "the iron rest includes a recess for passage of an iron power cord."

With further respect to claim 22, claim 22 provides "a weight, the iron power cord being tensioned by the weight suspended on the cord." Carlsen does not show or teach a weight or any device keeping the iron power cord tensioned.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claims 18, 19, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Couch et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,290,998.

Claims 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Krause, U.S. Patent No. 5,142,802. Claims 23, 24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Schuelein et al., DE 195 26 637.

With respect to the arguments above regarding claim 15, withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is also respectfully requested.

Claims 18, 19, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen, U.S. Patent No. 2,739,398, in view of Couch et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,290,998. Couch et al. discloses a cordless iron engaged in a rest position on a support platform. "The support platform includes a faschia plate 16 having control panels 17 equipped with control buttons and warning lights, and a parking dock comprising a turntable 18." (See col. 7, lines 41-44).

With further respect to claim 18, claim 18 provides "the connector has a socket for the power cord and a switch for interrupting current." Couch et al. is designed for a cordless iron and does not show or teach a "socket for the power cord" or "a switch for interrupting current as claimed.

With further respect to claim 19, claim 19 provides "a pilot light, the switch being connected to the pilot light." Couch et al. does not show or teach a pilot light.

With further respect to claim 28, claim 28 provides "the support is fixable at any angle." Couch et al. does not show or teach an iron rest that has a support "fixable at any angle."

Claims 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen in view of Krause, U.S. Patent No. 5,142,802. Krause discloses "Two support rods, 5, 6

are supported in the area of the center recess of the frame 2, which support rods 5, 6 are each pivotal about a horizontal axis." As shown in Fig. 4 in Krause, "the second support rod 5 is moved into an inclined position so that a steam iron 4 can be placed onto the frame 2."

With further respect to claims 23 and 25, claim 23 of the present application provides "the iron rest includes a support for the iron having an opening and having two support flaps opposite one another, the flaps oriented obliquely to a plane the ironing board body, and pointing downward." Claim 25 of the present application provides "the support flaps are articulated via hinges to opposite edges of the opening and are foldable into a plane of the opening."

Krause does not show or teach "flaps oriented obliquely to a plane the ironing board body, and pointed downward" or "articulated via hinges to opposite edges of the opening." As shown in Fig. 4 of Krause, support rods 5, 6 are pivoted up and out of the center of the plane so a steam iron can be placed on frame 2. Consequently, the support rods in Krause are not "pointed downward" or "articulated via hinges to opposite edges of the opening" as claimed in the present application.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
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